



CHECK YOUR HOME GUIDE

Building and Property Maintenance
Information for Property Owners and
Occupants in the City of Greenbelt.

CITY OF GREENBELT, MD
**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
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Welcome to the City of Greenbelt's,

“Check Your Home Guide”

The purpose of this guide is to provide educational information for property owners and occupants within the City of Greenbelt. It is based on the Property Maintenance Code of the City of Greenbelt. The “Check Your Home Guide” does not pretend to describe all code requirements or legal requirements. For detailed descriptions and specific code requirements consult Chapter 4 of the City Code.

The Building and Property Maintenance Codes can be found on Greenbelt CityLink at www.greenbeltmd.gov. Use the drop down menu item “City Government” and follow it to the “City Code.” Download Chapter 4 “Building and Building Regulations.” We hope the “Check Your Home Guide”, is useful and if you do have questions please call 301-345-5417.

The Housing Code says your home must be:
Safe, Clean, In Good Repair, & Not Overcrowded



HOME EXTERIOR GUIDELINES

TRASH CANS

- ☐ Leak proof containers
- ☐ Tightly closed
- ☐ Sufficient number

DOORS

- ☐ Weathertight
- ☐ Waterproof
- ☐ Hinges and locks okay

GUTTERS & DOWN SPOUTS

- ☐ Clean
- ☐ No leaks
- ☐ Free of leaves
- ☐ Not broken

FOUNDATION

- ☐ Sound
- ☐ No holes
- ☐ No cracks

STEPS

- ☐ In good repair
- ☐ Evenly spaced
- ☐ Handrail intact

PAINT

- ☐ Wood surface protected
- ☐ Metal surface protected
- ☐ Not peeling

ROOF

- ☐ Free of leaks

YARD

Is your yard clean and well maintained?... or is it inviting to rats, insects, and vermin?

- ☐ Weeds and grass cut
- ☐ No unlicensed or inoperable vehicles on the property
- ☐ Yard graded for drainage, not holding Water
- ☐ Address numbers visible from street
- ☐ Garage in good condition
- ☐ All additions have proper permits including decks
- ☐ Fence in good repair (fences over 4 feet require permits)
- ☐ *Storage sheds in good repair and structurally sound.

** Storage sheds can only be built in the back yard, you can construct one storage shed that is less than 150 square feet in your back yard without a permit. But if your storage shed is over 150 square feet or if you have more than one storage shed of ANY size, both County and City permits are required.*

IS YOUR HOME

- ☐ Structurally sound?
- ☐ Rodent proof?
- ☐ Weather proof?
- ☐ Well maintained?

WINDOWS

- ☐ Can be opened
- ☐ Unbroken
- ☐ Screens intact
- ☐ Weathertight

CHIMNEY

- ☐ Secured to house
- ☐ Lining intact

WALLS

- ☐ No holes
- ☐ No cracks
- ☐ Siding intact

HOME INTERIOR GUIDELINES



WINDOWS

- ☐ 8% of floor area
- ☐ Not broken and openable
- ☐ Free of moisture between panes

FLOORS

- ☐ Sound
- ☐ Free of tripping hazards

DOORS

- ☐ Locks functional
- ☐ Unobstructed
- ☐ Fits into frame

ELECTRICAL

- ☐ Service provided
- ☐ 2 outlets per room
- ☐ Properly insulated
- ☐ No extension cords

WALLS & CEILING

- ☐ Smooth
- ☐ No loose wallpaper
- ☐ Intact

PAINT

- ☐ Not lead
- ☐ Not flaking or peeling



SMOKE DETECTORS ARE REQUIRED IN

- ☐ ALL sleeping rooms,

- ☐ In the area immediately outside the sleeping room or rooms,
- ☐ And each story level of a dwelling, including the basement

KITCHEN

The Housing Code requires:

- ☐ Space for stove
- ☐ Space for storage
- ☐ Range hood clean and operable
- ☐ Refrigerator in good working order
- ☐ Hot & cold water
- ☐ Water from an approved source
- ☐ Water waste connected to sanitary sewer

- ☐ Adequate clearance to all combustibles from stove
- ☐ No roach and rat attractions, such as dirty dishes, food left out, and cooking surfaces not cleaned



BATHROOM

The Housing Code requires:

- ☐ A tub or shower
- ☐ A washbasin
- ☐ A toilet
- ☐ A light
- ☐ All fixtures working properly
- ☐ Bathroom fixtures free of leaks
- ☐ Adequate clearances
- ☐ Operable exhaust fan or window
- ☐ Fixtures not worn or

deteriorated (*Fixtures that have defects that prevent them from being kept clean increase the likelihood that disease causing organisms can spread.*)

- ☐ Clean and sanitary
- ☐ Electrical outlets within 6 feet of a water source be GFCI outlets



BASEMENT

The Housing Code requires:

WALLS

- ☐ Waterproof
- ☐ Free of holes

WATER

- ☐ No cross connection of waste pipe and water pipe
- ☐ No faucet in tub lower than top rim of tub

WATER HEATER

- ☐ Vented if gas fired
- ☐ Safety device
- ☐ Adequate clearance to combustibles

IF OCCUPIED AS A BEDROOM

- ☐ Has emergency egress window
- ☐ Or building has sprinkler system

HEATING SYSTEM

- ☐ Can heat to 65 degrees F
- ☐ Sealed against fumes
- ☐ In working order
- ☐ Furnace sections sealed
- ☐ Ducts and pipes leak-free



STAIRWAY

- ☐ Lighted
- ☐ Railing intact
- ☐ Steps in good condition

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

- ☐ Properly grounded
- ☐ Wires insulated
- ☐ No extension cord as permanent wiring
- ☐ Fuse box labeled & enclosed and has 3 feet of clearance
- ☐ No oversizing or overloaded fuses